Translation

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IS THE MURDERER OF KENNEDY FREE?

In the Week there was published the first part of a letter of the American jurist Mark Lane to the Chairman of the Commission investigating the circumstances of the murder of President Kennedy, Earl Warren. (The letter was published in the weekly National Guardian). He testified concerning apprehensions in American society caused by the fact that in the USA there are circles (which are actively) trying to push the country from the course which the Kennedy administration led, in part, in the field of foreign politics. Read the end of this letter, which we publish with some abridgments.

In the section entitled "the responsibility of the police for the murder of Oswald" the American Civil Liberties Union shows that as a result of concessions made by all means of information "Oswald was not only deprived of guilt but also of (his) life."

Question About Motives

There are two questions which as yet have not even been broached in print: the motives which could have impelled Oswald to commit the crime, and the plan with the help of which Oswald intended to hide. Oswald, apparently, esteemed President Kennedy.

If Oswald was a leftist, if he was a supporter of the Soviet Union and of Castro, then how could he not have known that in the past year through the help of President Kennedy relations between the United States and the Soviet Union improved? Even relations between the United States and Cuba, although they were formerly exceedingly unfriendly, all the same came out of the stage of military intervention. Fidel Castro himself before the death of the President declared: "He (Kennedy) has a chance to become the greatest President of the USA. . . . For the past few months he has understood a great deal. I believe that any other man would be worse than him." (New York Times, 11 Dec.)

The press persistently affirmed the fact that Oswald saw copies of the Communist newspaper Worker and that he received at least two letters from the Communist Party of the USA. One New York newspaper in an editorial article called him a "Communist murderer." But could Oswald really have not known that the Communist Party of the USA supported Kennedy when he ran for the post of President in 1960 and that six months before Gus Hall called for the party he headed to again support the candidative of Kennedy?

With what could Oswald wish to kill the President? And how did he think to hide himself after shooting the President? Did he want to run from the building? If the answer is yes then why did he remain in the refreshment room quietly drinking soda? Did he hurry? If the answer is yes then why did he sit in a bus? In Dallas on that day it was very hot. Jacqueline Kennedy said later that, exhausted from the heat and the stuffiness in the open moving car, she impatiently waited for the automobile to go under the arch of the tunnel opening ahead of them. Why did Oswald, trying to hide from the police, return home in order to put on a jacket? If he intended to leave the city then when did he go to a movie at the same time as in all the city there began an intense search for the murderer?

The accused was already dead before the press opened this broad field for speculation. And these were not the only questions which were raised neither by the press, by the radio, nor by other means of information.

Reasons for Innocence

Oswald denied that he shot anyone: he claimed that the charges against him were ridiculous. He persisted in his denial in spite of the fact that they questioned him under pressure for 48 hours without counsel.

Strong pressure was put on Oswald. He showed himself to be completely alone and took on the aspect of a popular figure guilty in the murder. Oswald was beaten by the police throughout the arrest, and his face was swollen and was all bruised. "Oh, you wanted to kill the President"--shouted one of the policemen choking with rage. (Washington Post, 1 Dec.)

In addition, Oswald was beaten about the eyes and forehead (New York Times, 24 Nov.).

When one journalist asked Oswald during the time of the interview broadcast on television where he got the blue marks and scratches on his face, he calmly answered: "the police hit me." Despite the assault and his absolute isolation, Oswald continued to affirm that he was not guilty. In contrast, all former murderers of American Presidents boasted that the crime was done by their hands.

Oswald might have presented data witnessing that at the moment of the commission of the crime he was located in another place. Of course, we can obtain no information about this charge. Nevertheless, it is possible to bring weighty facts showing that even if the accused was located on the sixth floor of the book store and was armed with the 6.5 millimeter Italian carbine which supposedly killed Kennedy, he could not have made the three shots which struck Kennedy and Governor Connally.

On 27 November the Secret Service recalled the circumstances of the murder of Kennedy. In the words of one official this was done with the goal of "verifying if it could have happened the way we think it did." (New York Times, 27 Nov.).

If the wound in the throat was the result of a shot from the bookstore, the President at this moment must have turned almost 180 degrees to the rear. As Dr. MacLellan said, in the opinions of the doctors, "he (the President) must have looked directly behind." (St. Louis Post Dispatch, 1 Dec.) The Washington correspondent of this newspaper wrote: "The photographic film shows, nevertheless that the President at this moment looked forward." (1 Dec.)

"Mrs. Connally, the wife of Texas Governor John Connally, declared that she had just turned to the President with the words: "you can't say that Dallas is in an unfriendly mood towards you today." He probably intended to answer her when the shot resounded." Mrs. Connally sat in front of the President.

Therefore, on the basis of the murder report composed by the police--witnesses of this murder--the report which is found in the files of the Dallas police, on the basis of

the films showing the scene of the murder and the sequences of these films, on the basis of the declarations of Governor Connally and the statements of those who reproduced this scene under the observations of the Secret Service, and in cooperation with the report of doctors who rendered help to Kennedy, we can conclude that the shot was made when the President was located with his back to the window on the sicth floor and at a distance of many yards from this window and that the bullet hit the President in the throat from the front.

If Oswald was located at the sixth floor window as they affirm, when the President was shot it would have been physically impossible for him to make the first shot which struck the President. According to Richard Dodman, correspondent of the St. Louis Post Dispatch, (1 Dec.): "the question arises how, shooting from behind, they shot the President from the front?"

The Kidnapped Automobile

If Oswald was located there where, according to the statements of the FBI and the Dallas District Attorney, he was located at the time when the shots were made, if the President was killed by one man as they affirm, then Lee Harvey Oswald was obviously not guilty. Oswald was not in that place and he did not have enough time to kill President Kennedy, as they accuse him.

Dodman wrote in the St. Louis Post Dispatch (1 Dec.) "Another unexplained circumstance is the small hole in the windshield of the presidential limousine. Your correspondent and still one other man saw this hole--which resembled a hole made by a bullet--at the time when the car stood at the entrance of the hospital and they rendered help to the President inside the building.

The Secret Service took possession of the car and dispatched the aircraft to Washington. A representative of the Secret Service refused a request about inspecing the machine in Washington. He refused to talk about whether or not there was any kind of hole in the glass.

Without a doubt the Secret Service concealed this car "in a secret place for the sake of protecting it."

Dodman continued to report stalling information. "Vagueness shrouds the question about the number of shots made." Although the majority of eyewitnesses heard that in the course of five seconds three shots were made, apparently five shots were detected."

One thing is completely clear. The theory put forward by the police of Dallas and constantly supported by the FBI that "they have irrefutable evidence against Oswald as the sole murderer," based on improbable consequences or on an investigation based from the very beginning on definite prejudice.

The Investigation

The FBI concluding the investigation, presented the fact that it considered its conclusions conclusive; the verdict, passed and secretly transmitted to the press, which later trumpeted it to all the world, was impressive and simple--"Oswald is the murderer. He acted alone." This startling police and investigating establishment, which was incapable of solving one of 40 bombings in Birmingham, now has the temerity to appear in the role of investigator, prosecutor, judge, and jury.

If the FBI had really been sure of its conclusions, it scarcely would have shown such a reluctance to permit the eyewitnesses to talk with the representatives of the press. It would not have felt the necessity to constantly, quietly supply the press information favorable for its conclusions. Nevertheless, most uneasily comes out the fact that if the FBI accepted a conclusion made even before the investigation, it possibly had the basis to look for clues supporting this conclusion.

Our national conscience must reject the diffusion by al media of information condemning Oswald,, who for the present cannot be considered tuilty. It remains for us to begin to study and to analyze the evidence. We must recognize that the same high-handed disrespect for human life and dignity which led to the death of our President also resulted in the death of Oswald while he was in the hands of the police.

Nevertheless, the officials who were obligated to ensure the observance of the law--beginning with the District Attorney Wade who before all the world constantly

made lying statements and who was in the forefront of the creation of an atmosphere of buffonery--deserve the most severe condemnations of history.

You are the jury, you are the only jury Lee Harvey Oswald will ever have.

Let him who refuses Oswald the right to an impartial discussion of the evidence against him on account of hatred--calling it, as they say, devotion to the late President--think about the following: If Oswald was not guilty, and such a possibility is impossible to deny, this means that the murderer of President Kennedy is still free.